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SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

Hungary

SUBJECT

Hungarian Army; Classes in Service; Air Force

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1. The total strength of the Hungarian Army is about 250,000 men at present. This total does not include those brought into summer camps for refresher training. In these courses of two or three months were especially included men of the 1923 to 1927 classes who saw some active service after 1945.
2. Currently under arms are: members of the class of 1932, delayed members of the classes of 1930 and 1931, all in their first year of training; members of the classes of 1930 and 1931, and members of later classes in specialist formations, in their second year of training; and members of motorized and technical formations in their third year of training, to which group belong air force members of the classes of 1928 and 1929. Most members of earlier classes who have reached their third year of training are now noncommissioned officers or lieutenants. The calling up of the 1953 contingent has been delayed to 1 November 1953.
3. During the last year the Hungarian Air Force has been organized along the lines of the Soviet Air Force. A Hungarian air division is composed of three air regiments. These regiments are divided in three "companies", these in three "sections" and the sections into "pairs". Of the three regiments composing a division two are commonly fighter regiments, equipped with YAK-9 planes and the third, an attack regiment, with IL-10s. In the fighter regiments two "pairs", or four planes, make a section; in the attack regiments three or four pairs make up a section. In addition to the regiments, a division has a staff company, a courier plane company, an air reconnaissance battalion, an AA section and support units. The jet fighter division is still being organized, but will probably be like the others.

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4. Hungarian parachute troops are at present divided into independent battalions, of which four are known. In case of need they can be assembled into a division. The battalions are made up of three rifle companies and technical units. They make use of their own LI-2 planes.

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12 October 1953

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